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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 003454

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/23/2014

TAGS: [AORC](#) [PARM](#) [CA](#) [IAEA](#)

SUBJECT: CANADA'S OPPOSITION TO A THIRD TERM FOR IAEA DG
ELBARADEI

REF: A. A. STATE 270920 AND PREVIOUS

[1](#)B. B. OTTAWA 03347

Classified By: POL M/C BRIAN FLORA. REASON 1.4(B) AND (D).

[1](#)1. (C) POL M/C followed up on our December 13 conversation (Ref B) with Foreign Affairs Deputy Director for Non-Proliferation, Terry Wood on December 23. Canada remains strongly in favor of a two-term limit. However, it did not have a candidate of its own and others rumored to be interested in running for the IAEA Director General position had not been nominated. Unless ElBaradei bows out, it was unlikely that anyone would be nominated prior to the December 31 deadline. Furthermore, Canada's sense was that support for him was growing, especially within the G-77, but also including France, Germany, Russia, and Belgium. He is close to having the support he needs to be re-elected and the G-77, confident that the votes can be rounded up, is apparently pressing for an early vote. Canada does not yet see where the twelve votes needed to oppose his bid for a third term would come from.

[1](#)2. (C) The key factor, according to Wood, is how forcefully the U.S. willing to fight in an attempt to turn things around. Thus far, the U.S. has made its views known publicly and privately, but without going after ElBaradei, who is viewed as competent and relatively effective by much of the IAEA membership. Any serious effort to force him out would leave blood on the floor and might not be successful. Lastly, one consideration was that a divisive and protracted fight would likely have negative consequences for the Agency's ability to carry out its responsibilities.

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